

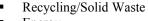
Institutional: Strategic Leadership

Campus Sustainability Report

ummary: Bowdoin has been actively reducing their environmental impact and conserving natural resources through student-led initiatives and campus departments, such as Dining Services and Facilities Management. These initiatives have historically been incrementally successful, and it appears that the single greatest obstacle to continuing success was the lack of a formal program to sustain the efforts. With the encouragement of the Evergreens, Bowdoin's student environmental activist organization, President Robert Edwards established the "Committee for a Sustainable Bowdoin." Their first task was to investigate and report on Bowdoin's environmental impacts.

The Environmental Impact Audit conducted at Bowdoin in 1999 detailed the baseline condition of environmental impacts. It indicated that Bowdoin did a satisfactory job of environmental management, but also presented recommendations to improve the

College's performance. Implementation of these recommendations required capital expenses that would have to be justified based either on financial return or solely environmental benefits. The Audit looked at the following environmental impacts:



- Energy
- Water
- Hazardous Waste
- Transportation/Parking
- Construction
- Landscaping
- Purchasing



Project Goals

Sustainable Awareness

- Leading by example, Bowdoin shall integrate environmental awareness and responsibility throughout the College community.
- Resources for learning and acting shall be available to the Bowdoin community, including recycling bins, awareness lectures, information centers, and opportunities to become directly involved in environmental protection, such as environmental action committees to advise and monitor activities of the College.
- Sustainable awareness shall encompass the social causes and consequences of environmental practices in compliance with the common good.

Sustainable Education

- Students, faculty and staff shall be offered the opportunity to participate in an orientation program that provides information on the College's commitment to environmental sustainability. Members of the College community shall be encouraged to act in a manner that reflects the objectives of the environmental mission statement.
- To ensure that graduates are environmentally literate and responsible citizens, and to acknowledge environmental leadership as a continuous, participatory learning process, the college will strive to inform students about

Disclaimer

The case studies identified in the BMP Catalog and the links to College and University web sites are provided for the convenience of the viewer. The provision of these case studies and links do not constitute any form of endorsement or approval by the US EPA. The US EPA does not exercise any editorial control over the information contained in these links, nor is the US EPA associated with or responsible for the content of these sites.



Campus Profile

Bowdoin College Brunswick, ME UG Students: 1,647 Resident Students: approx.

1,698

Faculty and Staff: 170 Campus Area: 200 acres Buildings: 117; 1,848,974 sf Operating Budget: \$89.7M environmental management, sustainable economic development and social justice through co-curricular programming

Sustainable Policy

- To promote a sustainable economy in Maine and New England, Bowdoin shall use all reasonable efforts to make new purchases that favor affordably priced local and renewable products that reflect the College's commitment to sustainability.
- To reduce waste in public landfills, Bowdoin shall use all reasonable efforts to purchase reusable and recyclable products when available.
- To complete the loop of recycling products, Bowdoin shall use all reasonable efforts to purchase products with recycled content when available and conduct vigorous recycling programs.

Description

Bowdoin College's Sustainability program works within Facilities Management to help "green" the campus. Concentrating on issues such as waste reduction, recycling, environmentally preferable purchasing, energy conservation, and alternative transportation, the College hopes to reduce its impact on the environment.

In creating the position of Coordinator for a Sustainable Bowdoin, the college's Senior Staff recognized that the concept of "sustainability" is important to the College. It will become more so in the years ahead as they begin to understand the effects of global warming, limited natural resources, and the value to the College of good stewardship.

The Audit established a baseline of Bowdoin's environmental impacts to identify opportunities for Bowdoin to improve environmental sustainability and reduce environmentally related operating costs. To fulfill these goals, it was necessary to identify activities at Bowdoin that impact, or could potentially impact, the environment or deplete natural resources, and continually review these concerns.

With the assistance of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Bowdoin has expanded on the recommendations of the audit by developing a campus-wide environmental management system (EMS). The project has been underway for four months. The College hopes that the EMS will help them prioritize opportunities and recommendations identified in the Environmental Impact Audit as well as recent updates in the Sustainable Bowdoin Campus Report.

Pre-Project Considerations

- Getting top administration support;
- Including all environmental impacts as part of the decision-making process at Bowdoin;
- Establishing a sustainability committee to investigate and report on Bowdoin's environmental impacts;
- Realizing that integral components of a successful environmental program are behavioral and cultural changes;
- Developing a system to plan and implement improvement initiatives;
- Measuring results of actions taken;
- Communicating successes; and
- Continually reviewing and improving the program.

Campus Sustainability Report

Bowdoin College integrates principles of sustainability into many campus programs and events. Issues involving environmental literacy and stewardship are discussed in academic courses, in departments such as Biology, Economics, and Government. Several major new construction projects on campus have integrated principles of green building into their design, to increase efficiency in cost and waste. Bowdoin's Dining Service has also done an outstanding job reducing campus environmental impact, by limiting trash and energy waste, and increasing their use of local and organic foods in student meals. Campus organizations and student groups have investigated and promoted environmental improvements in events taking place at the College, and continue to work to spread awareness about the benefits of reducing our impact on the natural world. For more information, visit http://www.bowdoin.edu/sustaina

Steps Taken

- Identify specific concerns and issues upfront to ensure that audit activities are conducted as thoroughly, efficiently, and effectively as possible;
- Gather existing benchmark data that will be useful to measure success of programs;
- Identify functional areas to be visited during the audit and contacts at each area;
- Provide detailed analyses of each functional area and organize data on how Bowdoin's activities impact the
 environment;
- Provide enough information so that Bowdoin can:
 - When appropriate, incorporate environmental aspects into the decision-making process; and
 - Determine how best to direct resources to improve its environmental performance and reduce its environmentally related operating costs.
- Document results and recommendations for environmental issues discussed.

Participants

- Committee for a Sustainable Bowdoin
 - Environmental Health and Safety Manager
 - Senior Administration
 - Students
 - Faculty
 - o Facilities Management
 - Dining Service
 - Campus Services
- Environmental Consulting Firm

Financial Info

Projected Initial Costs for Audit: \$31,500

Solid Waste - from July 2002-June 2003 Bowdoin sent 480 tons of trash to the local landfill at a cost of \$21,147 (44per ton). That doesn't include labor costs of taking it to the dump - that's just tipping fees!

Performance and Benefits

Recycling/Solid Waste

At the time of the audit, Bowdoin had a recycling program that was mainly initiated and operated by staff and students. The recycling efforts involved glass and bottle collection and cardboard, as well as reductions in waste paper napkins use in dining facilities. Further initiatives were not sustained due to inconsistent staff priorities and the shifting focus of transient students.

Table 1: Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling at Bowdoin (1999)

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling	7/99-6/00		
Tons Disposed	722.4		
Tons Recycled	115.4		
Percent Recycled	13.8%		
Type of Solid Waste Recycled, in Tons	1999	1998	1997
Cardboard	6.95	9.63	10.42
Newspaper	19.5 ¹	115.3 ²	8.58
Hi-Grade Paper	7.77	9.23	8.7
Tin	1.3	0.138	0.14
Plastic Bags	0.008	0.016	0.020
Metal	13.37	5.36	NA
Total Recycled Solid Waste	48.9	139.7	27.9

Newspaper combined with high-grade paper starting June 1999.

²There was an unusually high amount of newspapers recycled from Nay-Dec 1998.

To address the general conclusions and observations regarding the apparent low solid waste recycling rate at Bowdoin and the high amount of solid waste that is being disposed of at the Brunswick landfill, Bowdoin first hired a full time Sustainability Coordinator to coordinate efforts.

- The Sustainability Coordinator provides training and awareness during student orientation. This addressed the failure to continuously deliver awareness training to the Bowdoin community concerning the importance of recycling solid waste and minimizing the generation of waste.
- The Facilities Management Department provided trash bins and recycling bins in many convenient campus locations, as well as individual dorm rooms and campus apartments. This allowed students, staff, and faculty to dispose of recyclable solid waste in convenient recycling bins rather than more accessible regular trash containers.

2003-04 BOWDOIN COLLEGE RECYCLING GUIDI WHAT CAN BE RECYCLED AT BOWDOIN?

Each workspace should have both a trash and paper–recycling container. If you lack either of these containers please call x3333 to request one from housekeeping. To recycle the other items listed below, please check with your housekeeper who will help you locate the recycling station in your building. For questions on what is or is not recyclable please contact Keisha Payson at x3086.

All Paper	BOTTLES & CANS	#2 Plastic	Cardboard		
 Newspaper & inserts 	Look for the	 Containers with 	 Cardboard (MUST BE 		
 Catalogs & Magazines 	"ME 5¢ Refund" on:	the HDPE #2 label.	BROKEN DOWN AND		
 Phone books & Paperback 	 Aluminum cans 	Rinse out and discard			
books (COVERS REMOVED)	 Glass bottles 	lids ~ they are a	Brown paper bags		
Computer Paper (all colors) Notebook paper	 #1 & #2 plastic 	different type of	 Please ask your housekeeper for the 		
Notebook paper Manila folders		plastic. • Please ask your	cardboard recycling		
Index cards Post-it notes		housekeeper for the #2	location in your building.		
Paper envelopes with labels		recycling location in	recation in your banding.		
and plastic windows		your building.			
WHAT NOT TO INCLUDE IN THESE CATEGORIES?					
DON'T INCLUDE	DON'T INCLUDE	DON'T INCLUDE	DON'T INCLUDE		
Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø		
 Paper cups 	Any of the above	Any other type of	 Greasy Pizza boxes 		
 Paper plates 	without the "ME 5¢	plastic but #2. Do not			
Tissue paper	Refund" written on	include #2	boxes, Fed Ex or UPS		
Paper towels	it.	oil or antifreeze	cardboard envelopes) Waxed cardboard		
Hardcover books		containers.	vvaxed cardboard		
Covers of catalogs that					

Special items* that can be recycled at Bowdoin:

• Ink Jet cartridges • Laser Cartridges • Batteries • Used overheads • Styrofoam peanuts • Floppy dis

*Please call Keisha Pavson for assistance (x3086 or kawson@bowdoin.edu)

Bowdoin has increased the types of items that can be recycled on campus. Flyers have been developed for office spaces, apartments and dormitories to identify what can be recycled. See example below for "Offices." This, of course, addresses the limited opportunities for faculty and staff to recycle bulk items, such as catalogues.

Other Successful Recycling Programs on Campus:

Composting: The Bowdoin community feels that it is important to reduce the amount of waste it sends to the town landfill. Composting is another waste reduction effort that contributes to that goal. Composting also lowers the amount of fertilizer the school purchases for use on athletic fields and campus gardens. Bowdoin College uses an in-vessel composting system to compost their pre-consumer food waste. Currently student volunteers transfer the waste from the dining halls to the composter – roughly 400 pounds per week. The composting system is a self-contained aeration and mixing system that operates as a continuous process, allowing you to add more material until the tub is full, similar to a home composting system. The insulated container holds in heat generated by the composting process to provide for all-season composting.

Dump & Run: Dump & Run is a program designed to divert usable items that would otherwise end up in the local landfill out of the dumpsters and into a yard sale. As students move out they often have items they either no longer want - or just don't have the room in their car to take with them. Traditionally these items ended up in the large dumpsters placed on campus during move out. The idea for the program started at Bowdoin after a meeting with Lisa Hellar, the founder of the national non-profit organization "Dump & Run". Proceeds from the Bowdoin move out sale are donated to local non-profit organizations that help with the sale, and any un-sold items are passed on to organizations or individuals in need. In 2003 the process ran even smoother than the first year based on the excitement from Bowdoin students, the superb help from the housekeeping staff,



and the amazing number of hours put in by the many volunteer organizations that helped to collect, sort and sell the donated items. In 2003 they grossed \$19,000 from the sale, and donated \$18,303.64 to the participating volunteer organizations who helped with the process. The money awarded each organization is based on the percentage of hours they contribute during the collection, sorting and sale. Last year the college saved roughly \$2,700 on their solid waste bill during move-out and hope that number increases as more students participate in Dump & Run in the coming years.

Dining Services: Bowdoin College Dining Service was recently ranked number one in the nation by Princeton Review for its outstanding food service and is consistently making improvements to stay on top. Bowdoin does much of it's own food processing on site, including running its own bakery and butcher shop, to ensure a high quality. Contributing to the excellent quality is a multitude of vegetarian/vegan options and a strong emphasis on local food. A recent switch to naturally raised beef from Wolf Neck Farm, located 10 miles from campus, reduces the cost of transporting large volumes of beef from the Midwest and ensures burgers for the campus that are free of growth hormones, steroids and antibiotics. Over the past few years Dining Services has reduced waste removal costs from \$18,000 in 1999 to \$5,000 in 2002. Some of that reduction is due to an increase in recycling the large tin cans associated with food packaging, installation of a food pulper that extracts water from post consumer food waste, and purchasing items in bulk. Other waste reduction techniques Dining Service has used includes putting unbleached napkins out in baskets on the tables — that way people only grab the amount they need — instead of grabbing multiple napkins while standing in the food serving line. Dining Service also encourages students to use their own mug when taking beverages from the dining hall by giving every first year student their own thermal travel mug and placing signs up in the dining hall that remind students of the benefits of bringing their own mug. A campaign encouraging the campus community to bring their own mug to the dining hall resulted in a decrease in use of 43,000 paper cup during the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

Energy

Prior to the audit, Bowdoin had undertaken several energy conservation programs. In addition, the Facilities Management Department continuously spent more than \$100,000 annually on heating system upgrades and improvements. Bowdoin had also implemented a policy of meeting United States Department of Energy's (US DOE) minimum standards for energy conservation for new building and renovation. This program proved to be the most prominent and successful initiatives undertaken by Bowdoin to conserve natural resources. From 1978-1984, Bowdoin received three federal grants from US DOE for energy conservation measures. As a result of these measures, fuel oil consumption was reduced from 1.29 gallons per square foot of building area in 1972 to 0.55 gallons per square foot of building area in 1989. In 1991, the College undertook lighting retrofits and controls which resulted in annual electrical savings of 45,000 kilowatt-hours. In 1985, Bowdoin employed an energy management system that monitors more than 3,600 points; performs electrical load shedding; and controls various heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems.

Energy use at Bowdoin is costly and has potential to offer significant cost reduction opportunities. Since major building rehabilitations have already occurred, the largest remaining opportunities lie with energy waste by students, faculty, and staff that can be curbed by increasing awareness and implementing energy saving educational programs. Bowdoin should also continue to evaluate cost-effectiveness of additional building upgrades as capital expense resources allow.

Changing Type of Fuel Used: Key successes of Bowdoin's sustainability efforts over the summer of 2003 include the switch from #6 to #2 fuel oil in the campus heating plant. By converting from #6 fuel oil to #2 oil, Bowdoin produces 57 percent (46 tons) less emissions of sulfur dioxide and particulate matter a year, which is the equivalent of taking 576 cars off the road annually. Nitrogen oxide emissions decrease by 77 percent annually. These emissions are primary causes of acid rain and ozone smog. Reduced emissions also save the College approximately \$570 each year in emissions fees to the State of Maine. Additionally, the switch to #2 oil lessens operating costs due to decreased maintenance requirements, fewer fuel additives, and greater combustion efficiency.

Front-Load Washers: Over the summer of 2003, the College also installed front-load washers and dryers in student laundry facilities. The newly installed Maytag High-Efficiency washers in college dormitory housing will use significantly less energy and water than the top loading machines the college had used for over 25 years. Because the new front-loading washers do not have an agitator like a top-load washer, the washer can hold 32 percent more, is more gentle on clothes, and can better hold large bulky items. They also spin faster, resulting in drier clothes and a 20 percent energy savings due to a reduced dryer time from 50 to 40 minutes. The decrease in water usage from 32 gallons per cycle to 16 gallons per cycle will also decrease the amount of energy needed to heat the warm water wash cycles. It is predicted that Bowdoin's new front-load washers and dryers will annually reduce water consumption by 723,600 gallons and electricity use by 31,356 KwH, amounting to a net annual saving of \$7,500.

Disclaimer

The case studies identified in the BMP Catalog and the links to College and University web sites are provided for the convenience of the viewer. The provision of these case studies and links do not constitute any form of endorsement or approval by the US EPA. The US EPA does not exercise any editorial control over the information contained in these links, nor is the US EPA associated with or responsible for the content of these sites.

Energy Competition: Energy conservation also found its way into campus housing by way of an energy conservation dorm competition. For a week, first-year dorms and college houses were monitored for their energy consumption. The winning house, MacMillan, cut their energy use by 40 percent. Sustainable Bowdoin will repeat the energy dorm competition in the coming year and extend the contest to two weeks.

Water

The largest use of water on campus is believed to be from personal use by students in college housing. Functional areas that are believed to be large water users include Grounds Maintenance for irrigation, Dining Services for food preparation and dishwashing, and the Central Heating Plant for steam generation.

Bowdoin's sewer bill is based on how much water is used by the campus. Bowdoin currently uses a portable meter for most irrigation activity allowing it to subtract out that water from the bill. This practice should be done for all irrigation although it may require the purchase of additional water meters. Other water that does not need to be disposed of to the sanitary sewer should be identified, metered, and subtracted from the sewer bill.

Water Conservation Efforts:

- Take shorter showers.
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth, washing your face, and shaving.
- Tell facilities about leaky faucets.
 (A slow drip wastes 36 gallons and costs about \$66 a year).

Last year Bowdoin used 43,410,180 gallons of water, at a cost of \$142,673.06

Transportation/Parking

Bowdoin has a pedestrian and bike friendly campus with several auto-free zones. Parking on campus is scarce with 1,400 to 1,500 parking passes issued in 1999 for 1,100 to 1,200 spaces. Security is responsible for campus parking and is currently evaluating measures to relieve the parking pressures.

Based on a survey conducted to determine the commuting habits of staff, students, and faculty, 650 faculty and staff members commute approximately 72,800 miles per week. Students drive only a fraction of those miles. Bowdoin also operates 49 of its own vehicles that were driven approximately 312,700 miles in 1999

Transportation Efforts:

The average student living off campus drives over 47 miles per week just going to and from campus. That includes students living off campus who walk to campus.

- Drive less reduce pollution and save money on gas.
- Carpool
- Ride a bike or walk and get some fresh air and exercise.
- If you must own a car, buy a fuel-efficient vehicle.

Table 2: Transportation Survey Results

	Employees	Students
Number Interviewed	28	33
5-day per Week Commuters	25	20
Number that Carpool	0	NA
Car Owners	NA	20
Commuter Miles ¹	72,800 miles/week	3,000 miles/week

¹An extrapolation of the average number of miles driven by those interviewed to the total number of employees and students.

Hazardous Waste

All departments and groups on campus utilizing hazardous materials or disposing of hazardous waste must maintain an inventory of all those materials. Employees receive initial and annual training specific to their work areas.

Bowdoin has minimized the use and storage of hazardous materials on campus. For example, Bowdoin's approach to develop and use micro-scale techniques in the laboratories has reduced the amount of chemicals used and stored, and

Disclaimer

The case studies identified in the BMP Catalog and the links to College and University web sites are provided for the convenience of the viewer. The provision of these case studies and links do not constitute any form of endorsement or approval by the US EPA. The US EPA does not exercise any editorial control over the information contained in these links, nor is the US EPA associated with or responsible for the content of these sites.

wasted generated by scientific departments in Druckenmiller Hall. Facilities Management has also made a conscious effort to replace hazardous chemicals with safer substitutes.

Bowdoin Housekeeping staff has recently switched to a new cleaning supply, a biodegradable concentrate that utilizes different, task-specific dilution ratios. By using dilution centers, housekeeping can reduce waste from plastic bottles of multiple products.

Construction

New building and building renovation projects at Bowdoin follow, at a minimum, the United States Department of Energy's standards for energy efficiency. Bowdoin normally assesses the reuse potential for any material from demolition and renovation projects prior to disposal.

One of the fastest growing sectors in the sustainability movement has been within the architecture and building trades. Emphasis has been placed on sustainable site location, water efficiency, energy conservation, indoor air quality and using materials that are either harvested sustainably or made from recyclable materials. Bowdoin has begun to incorporate sustainable design practices into their building process by asking architects working at Bowdoin to complete a worksheet developed by the US Green Building Council called "LEED" (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) that informs builders where they are succeeding and where they need to improve. Over the past 3 years three building projects have incorporated numerous LEED credit features into their design and the most current building project, 2 new dorms scheduled to open in 2005, will be LEED certified..

In 2000, a major renovation of **Thorne Dining Hall** was completed which incorporated several energy conservation and indoor environmental quality features. The 650 seat dining hall was built to operate without air conditioning by including several passive design concepts.

- The large facility has very high ceilings, operable windows and large operable shades that can be lowered over the windows during the hot summer days reducing solar gain in the summer months and providing the flexibility to use the solar gain during the heating season.
- During the heating season the large windows allow sunlight to reach a heat absorbing slate floor, which then radiates thermal energy.
- Other energy conservation measures, including natural day lighting, variable speed drives on pumping loads, and premium efficiency motors on all equipment were incorporated in the building's Electro/Mechanical design.

In the spring of 2002 the college completed construction of the **Schwartz Outdoor Leadership Center (OLC)**. The strongest environmental aspects of the building are site use, lack of air conditioning, natural ventilation, use of day lighting, and radiant-floor heating.

- The original design for the OLC was 15,000 to 18,000 square feet, but was cut down to a little over 5000 square feet. As the architect for the building told us "The greenest thing is what you don't build!" The site was also chosen very carefully to preserve trees and the natural surroundings by constructing the building close to the road and over an old faculty parking lot.
- Both the high windows and heat exchange ventilation system, in which the warm air inside the building helps to heat the cold air as it enters, are energy efficient designs that help to reduce heat loss.
- The kitchen, offices, meeting rooms, and storerooms have little need for artificial lighting, as 90% of the spaces in the building are lit with natural daylight. Radiant-floor heating also offers energy savings as well as improving indoor air quality. This works by turning the floor into a large-area, low-temperature radiator.
- One of the sustainable materials being used for the building is a recycled plastic that replaces lumber normally used for decks.

In the Fall of 2001, renovations began in **Adams Hall**, home of the college's Environmental Studies Program. Green design was a fundamental feature to the building, as well as the inclusion of student input and research. For more information about the Environmental Studies space, please visit the <u>department's website</u>.

Kanbar Hall, the College's newest building, still under construction on the corner of Bath Road and Sills Drive, has many sustainable features integrated into the design.

- Placing the building on the western portion of the building envelope saved the Bowdoin Pines clustered on the eastern portion of the parcel.
- Regionally appropriate landscaping design as well as water conserving restroom fixtures reduces the overall water use for the building.
- The HVAC has variable speed fans and pumping systems to reduce inefficiency. Offices have individual controls for the HVAC as well as operable windows.
- During construction the college is working with the Institutional Recycling Network to recycle construction debris and keep construction waste to a minimum.
- Recycled content is included in the steel and ceiling tiles, and Fly Ash is recycled into the concrete mix.
- The building will be built with Bowdoin Blend red brick, made in Auburn, Maine, showing the colleges commitment to using local material whenever possible.

Another area where Bowdoin is improving its environmental initiatives is in recycling construction and demolition waste. In the spring of 2002, a house at 6 South St. was demolished to make way for a new Children's Center. The College worked with Environmental Resource Return Corporation, a New Hampshire company, to ensure that 97% of the building was recycled. At the end of recycling three products were generated. The first was field chips, which are used as biomass fuel in a Maine facility to produce electricity. Another was textured soil used to cover landfills in New Hampshire. Lastly, an aggregate material is used to provide smooth roads at landfills. Bowdoin has also incorporated onsite recycling into it's two current construction projects — recycling 97% of the waste from the Chapel Tower's renovation and 90% of the waste from the Kanbar Hall construction as well.

Landscaping

Landscaping at Bowdoin is designed to ensure the campus in not excessively maintained. A large percentage of the landscaping is comprised of native plants and trees that require minimal attention. The landscaping program implemented by the Grounds Maintenance staff has been designed to be environmentally conscious and minimizes environmental impacts. Environmentally sound practices used by Grounds Maintenance include:

- Using pesticides only when problems are identified;
- Irrigating mostly in the morning hours to reduce water loss to evaporation;
- Using soaker hoses for shrub and tree watering to minimize water use; and
- Exchanging grass clippings and leaves for mulch with a contractor.

Purchasing

Like many institutions, purchasing is decentralized at Bowdoin, allowing individual departments to purchase their own supplies. Through the efforts made by the individual departments, staff, and students, Bowdoin identified several environmentally sustainable product substitutes, and negotiated better pricing as well as instituting policies that encouraged purchasing environmentally preferable materials.

- The College has developed a new office products procurement strategy that accesses the Internet, resulting in the reduction of numerous heavy paper catalogs being sent to each department as well as a drastic reduction in paper invoices sent to our accounting department.
- The percent of recycled paper purchased campus wide from Bowdoin's office supply vendor has climbed over the last year from 65% up to 74%. In addition, over the last fiscal year the Bowdoin Copy Center has increased the amount of recycled paper they buy for their white commodity paper from 85 percent to 96 percent.

Lessons Learned

In order for Bowdoin to address some of its deficiencies during the audit, the College plans on implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS) through the assistance of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The EMS will be the process to help Bowdoin evaluate the environmental impact of its decisions at the time the decisions are made. Moreover, the EMS will be the comprehensive system that will assist Bowdoin in implementing its environmental initiatives more consistently.

For Further Information

Keisha Payson
Facilities Management
3800 College Station
Bowdoin College
Brunswick, Maine 04011-8429
Tel. 207-725-3086
Fax 207-725-3449
kpayson@bowdoin.edu

Or visit: http://www.bowdoin.edu/sustainablebowdoin/

Other Successful Programs

There are examples from many campuses around Maine. The Maine Green Campus Consortium has a website with access to each of these campuses. It can be accessed at http://www.megreencampus.com/.